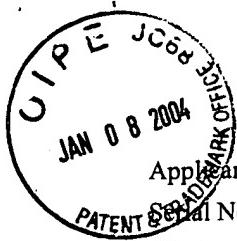


01-12-04



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: VANDEN HOEK ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 10/663,623 Group Art Unit: 3762
Filed: SEPTEMBER 16, 2003 Docket: 11998.55US01
Confirmation No.: 1901
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR APPLYING CARDIAC SUPPORT DEVICE

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV322883014US
Date of Deposit: January 8, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Teresa Anderson
Name: Teresa Anderson

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

34379
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

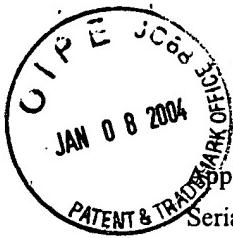
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- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 33 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: Anna M. Nelson
Name: Anna M. Nelson
Reg. No.: 48,935
ANelson:PLSkaw



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Name: Anna M. Nelson
Reg. No.: 48,935
ANelson:PLSkaw



S/N 10/663,623

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	VANDEN HOEK ET AL.	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	10/663,623	Group Art Unit:	3762
Filed:	SEPTEMBER 16, 2003	Docket No.:	11998.55US01
Title:	APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR APPLYING CARDIAC SUPPORT DEVICE		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV322883014US
Date of Deposit: January 8, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By: Teresa Anderson
Name: Teresa Anderson

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each foreign patent document and other document listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is enclosed; and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i), a copy of all U.S. patents and U.S. patent publications listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are not provided, as this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

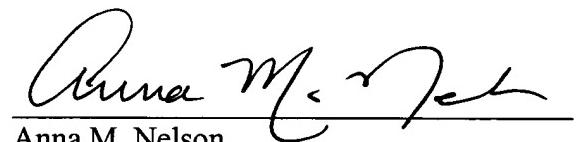
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

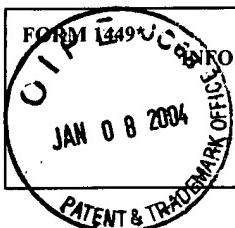
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: January 8, 2004


Anna M. Nelson
Reg. No. 48,935
AMN:PLSkaw

34379

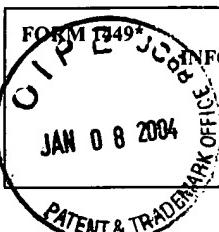
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number:	Application Number:
	11998.55US01	10/663,623
	Applicant: VANDEN HOEK ET AL.	
	Filing Date: 09/16/2003	Group Art Unit: 3762

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,587,567	06/28/1971	Schiff			
	3,983,863	10/05/1976	Janke et al.			
	4,048,990	09/20/1977	Goetz			
	4,403,604	09/13/1983	Wilkinson et al.			
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	4,630,597	12/23/1986	Kantrowitz et al.			
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	4,827,932	05/09/1989	Ideker et al.			
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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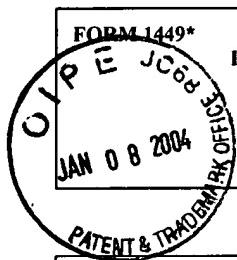
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.

 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 11998.55US01	Application Number: 10/663,623
		Applicant: VANDEN HOEK ET AL.	
		Filing Date: 09/16/2003	Group Art Unit: 3762

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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>		Docket Number: 11998.55US01	Application Number: 10/663,623
		Applicant: VANDEN HOEK ET AL.	
		Filing Date: 09/16/2003	Group Art Unit: 3762

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	6,579,226 B2	06/17/2003	Vanden Hoek et al.			

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	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
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	38 31 540 A1	04/06/1989	DE			Abstract	
	38 31 540 C2	06/24/1993	DE			Abstract	
	295 17 393 U1	03/14/1996	DE				X
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	2 209 678 A	05/24/1989	GB				
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	WO 96/16601	06/06/1996	PCT				
	WO 96/31175	10/10/1996	PCT				
	WO 98/29041	07/09/1998	PCT				

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN AN APPLICATION <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>			Docket Number: 11998.55US01	Application Number: 10/663,623
			Applicant: VANDEN HOEK ET AL.	
			Filing Date: 09/16/2003	Group Art Unit: 3762

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	WO 98/35632	08/20/1998	PCT				
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